

REMARKS


Claims 22-27, 29-32, 43-51, 53 and 54 are pending in this application.

Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging that claims 26, 31, 32, 44, 45 and 49 are directed to allowable subject matter. These claims have been re-formatted such that they expressly recite subject matter previously claimed by reference to a base claim. Accordingly, Applicants believe that these claims are now in condition for allowance.

In a telephone interview on March 22, 2004, the Examiner indicated that claim 53 was mistakenly identified in the Final Office Action as being allowable. The Examiner further indicated that claim 53 should have been rejected. To obtain allowance of this application, claim 53 and the other rejected claims have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

If necessary, Applicants request that this Amendment be considered a request for an extension of time for a time appropriate for the response to be timely filed. Applicants request that any required fees needed beyond those submitted with this Amendment be charged to the account of Bose McKinney & Evans LLP, Deposit Account Number 02-3223

Respectfully submitted,



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